

OXFORD, November 19th, 1793.

A FALSE and insidious Address having been circulated, containing an Attack upon the Guardians of the United Parishes, and evidently with a Design to mislead and raise a Spirit of Diffension, at a Time when a contrary Disposition must be seriously wished by every well-disposed Person; the following just and plain Statement of Facts, will, it is presumed, remove every Part of the pretended Charge.

In the Centre of the House of Industry, the Cieling of a very large Room had given way seven Inches, and was in Danger of falling in for Want of a Support; it was recommended to divide the Room by strong Partitions, by which two Rooms would be gained to place the Master and Mistress, who would by this Situation have a better Opportunity of seeing the whole Business of the House; and by altering the Entrance into the House, they might inspect every Person coming in or going out; the Male and Female Paupers would also be kept separate; and by removing the Avenues into the Yard, the Paupers would be prevented from having Communication with the Offices; the Want of which Regulations has been attended with very great Mischiefs and Expences: These Alterations were proposed at a Special Court where twenty-nine Guardians were present, when an Estimate was ordered to be taken; which being presented, was considered two successive Meetings, and agreed to without a dissenting Voice, when sixteen Guardians were present. The Alterations, which are to be compleated for Thirty Pounds, have also been approved by two eminent Builders in Oxford. These being Facts cannot be contradicted, and it is hoped, will satisfy the Public that no Attention ought to be given to a Representation founded on Falshood, and made apparently for the worst Purposes.—As this Opportunity offers, it may not be improper to account briefly for the present Increase of Expences of the General Workhouse; it is occasioned by unavoidable Circumstances, *viz.* the Payment of the Families of those Persons who are serving in the Militia, and the Increase of the Out-Poor arising in some Degree from the same Cause; seldom less than Fourteen Pounds are paid each Week upon these Accounts only; but as the Service of the Country requires it, the Expence, it is hoped, will be chearfully borne. It must be added, that the common Expences of the House are much lessened, and will by proper Regulations be still more diminished.

LSTC